

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 8, 2010

The Honorable John Spratt
Chairman, House Budget Committee
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Ranking Member, House Budget
Committee
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Spratt and Ranking Member Ryan:

As Members of the House of Representatives who are concerned with protecting the environment, health, and prosperity of our nation we thank you for your commitments in Fiscal Year 2010 to key environmental, clean energy and sustainability priorities and your efforts to ensure that core programs receive strong investments in the next fiscal year.

We recognize that these difficult economic times call for fiscal prudence and wise spending decisions; however we feel that it is of highest importance that we continue to support our nation's core conservation, environmental, and clean energy programs. These programs will create jobs, transition us to a new clean energy economy, improve local communities, and provide a healthy environment with clean air and clean drinking water for Americans in every state. By providing the necessary funding to these programs we can maintain and improve the health and prosperity of our nation and its resources and help to lay the foundation for the United States to lead the world in clean energy technologies.

The core programs within Function 300 are vital to the public health and the natural heritage of our nation, and we urge that the House Budget Resolution include at least \$37.5 billion in discretionary funding for Function 300 for Fiscal Year 2011. This would represent a modest 2.7% increase over the Fiscal Year 2010 enacted level of \$36.5 billion.

Also, we strongly support the President's proposed increase in funding for the research, development, demonstration and deployment of energy efficiency, renewable energy, smart grid, and advanced vehicle technologies. Therefore we urge that the House Budget Resolution include robust funding for Function 270, consistent with the President's budget proposal, in the amount of at least \$5.7 billion.

Additionally, we support funding for livability initiatives within and between the Departments of Transportation (DOT), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as well as programs in the Departments of Commerce (DOC), Energy (DOE), and Interior (DOI) aimed at creating more environmentally and economically sustainable communities and promoting the innovation and deployment of clean energy.

Finally, we support the President's proposal of eliminating wasteful spending that has supported high-polluting energy technologies and urge that these resources are instead used to support vital environmental and clean energy programs.

We strongly support these key initiatives as part of the Fiscal Year 2011 budget:

- Projecting revenues obtained from reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the next decade.
- Restoring the operations and maintenance capability of our natural resources and environment departments and agencies that have been decimated by years of budget shortfalls.
- Increasing funding for DOE programs for the research, development, demonstration and deployment of renewable energy, energy efficiency, smart grid, advanced vehicles, and other clean energy technologies.
- Investing in the Land and Water Conservation Fund, keeping that program on track towards full funding by 2014.
- Restoring and increasing funding for ocean science, protection, management, and planning to prepare for increased economic activities in marine areas.
- Continuing to provide funding for restoration of our nation's ecosystems including the Everglades, Great Lakes, Coastal Louisiana, and Chesapeake Bay.
- Funding the 2008 Farm Bill conservation programs at their authorized amounts.
- Funding for DOT, HUD and EPA inter-agency initiatives that promote livable and sustainable communities and decrease greenhouse gas emissions.
- Increasing funding for high speed rail, public transit, and intermodal transportation.
- Increasing funding to expedite the responsible deployment of renewable energy technologies on federal lands.
- Reinstating the industrial and corporate Superfund taxes, which fund cleanup of our nation's most hazardous waste sites.

Also, we strongly oppose the following proposed terminations and cuts to clean water and open space preservation programs that we feel are essential to achieving the environmental objectives that we share with the President:

- We oppose cutting funding for programs that improve water quality including the EPA's Targeted Watershed Infrastructure Grant (TWIG) program, Clean Water State Revolving Fund, Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, and the termination of the Army Corps of Engineers Water and Wastewater programs.
- We oppose eliminating funding for Save America's Treasures and Preserve America grants and the proposed 50 percent reduction of funding for National Heritage areas. These programs protect our nation's history and open space.
- We oppose the reduction of funding for public transit which decreases greenhouse gas emissions and creates and maintains jobs. A reduction in funding would undermine the DOT's livability objectives.

We believe that the Federal Government must allocate its financial resources wisely and effectively, and we understand that there are difficult budgetary decisions for Congress in the months ahead. We look forward to working with you to provide proper funding for these vital programs that promote these goals and the Administration's own laudable environmental objectives.

By adequately funding these programs we will continue the great work that was begun by Congress and the President last year. We must seize the opportunity to lay the foundation for

domestic clean energy leadership and the conservation of our nation's air, land, water, and wildlife that will leave a positive legacy for generations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Inslee'.

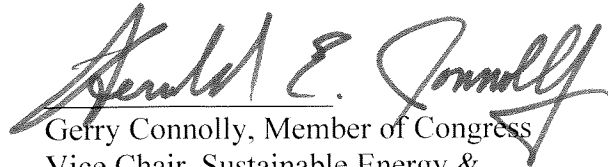
Jay Inslee, Member of Congress
Co-Chair, Sustainable Energy &
Environment Coalition

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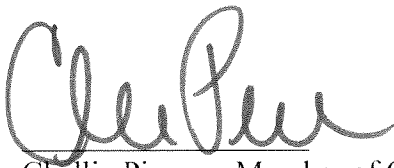
Steve Israel, Member of Congress
Co-Chair, Sustainable Energy &
Environment Coalition

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Rush Holt, Member of Congress
Vice Chair, Sustainable Energy &
Environment Coalition

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gerry Connolly'.

Gerry Connolly, Member of Congress
Vice Chair, Sustainable Energy &
Environment Coalition

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Chellie Pingree'.

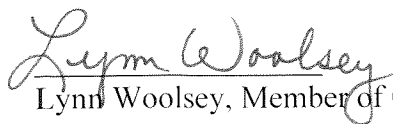
Chellie Pingree, Member of Congress
Vice Chair, Sustainable Energy &
Environment Coalition

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Paul Tonko, Member of Congress
Vice Chair, Sustainable Energy &
Environment Coalition

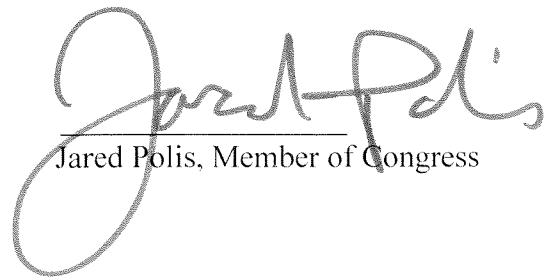
A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Earl Blumenauer'.

Earl Blumenauer, Member of Congress

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lynn Woolsey'.

Lynn Woolsey, Member of Congress


Ben Ray Luján, Member of Congress


Jared Polis, Member of Congress

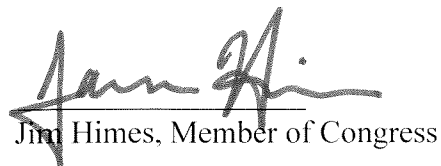

John Sarbanes, Member of Congress

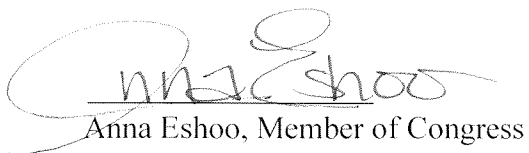

Phil Hare, Member of Congress

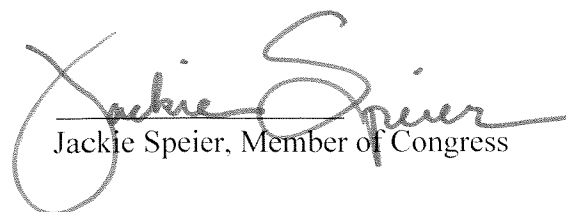

Brian Higgins, Member of Congress


Mike Thompson, Member of Congress


Joe Courtney, Member of Congress

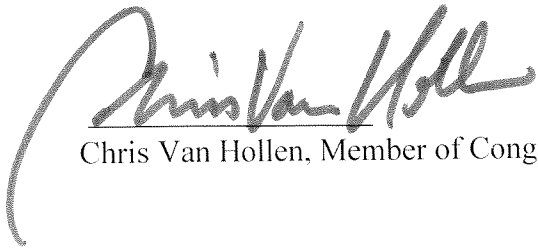

Jim Himes, Member of Congress


Anna Eshoo, Member of Congress


Jackie Speier, Member of Congress


Mike Honda, Member of Congress

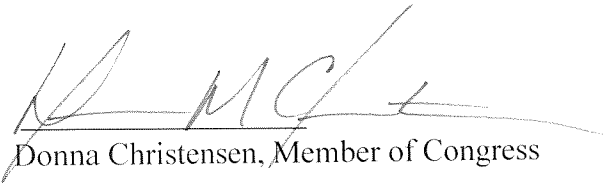

Russ Carnahan, Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen, Member of Congress



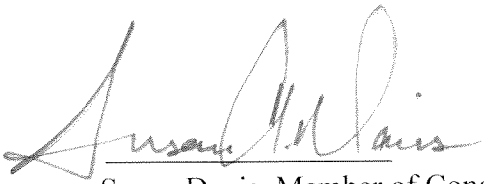
Martin Heinrich, Member of Congress



Donna Christensen, Member of Congress



Mazie Hirono, Member of Congress



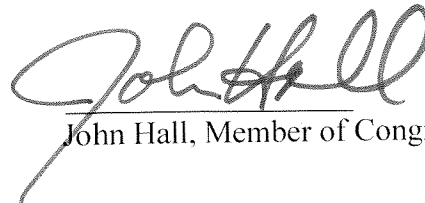
Susan Davis, Member of Congress



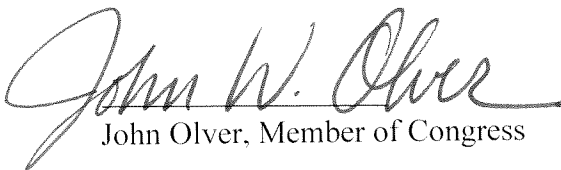
Peter Welch, Member of Congress



Paul Hodes, Member of Congress



John Hall, Member of Congress



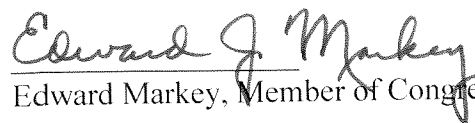
John Olver, Member of Congress



Steve Cohen, Member of Congress



Yvette Clarke, Member of Congress



Edward Markey, Member of Congress



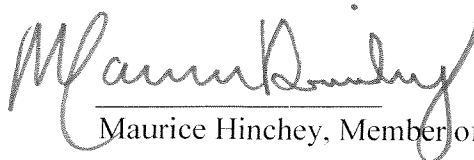
Maxine Waters, Member of Congress



Alcee Hastings, Member of Congress



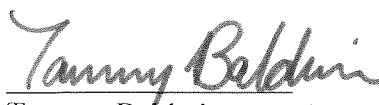
John Conyers, Member of Congress



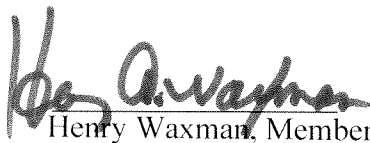
Maurice Hinchey, Member of Congress



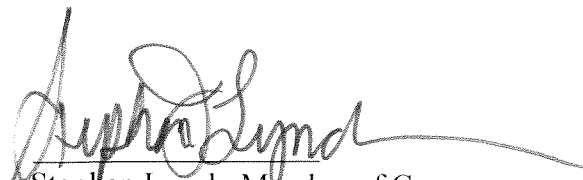
Barbara Lee, Member of Congress



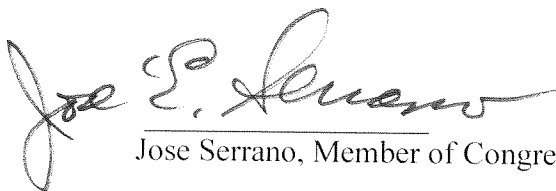
Tammy Baldwin, Member of Congress



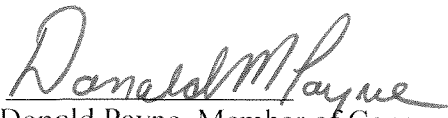
Henry Waxman, Member of Congress



Stephen Lynch, Member of Congress



Jose Serrano, Member of Congress



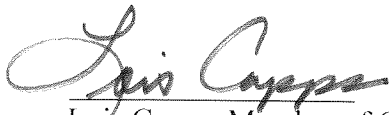
Donald Payne, Member of Congress



Eliot Engel, Member of Congress



Jim McDermott, Member of Congress



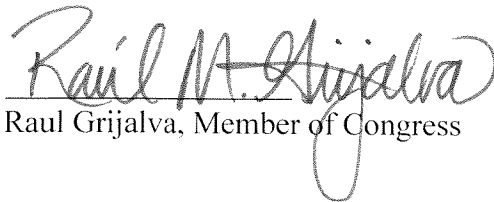
Lois Capps, Member of Congress



Bobby Scott, Member of Congress



Carol Shea-Porter, Member of Congress



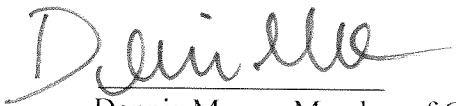
Raul Grijalva, Member of Congress



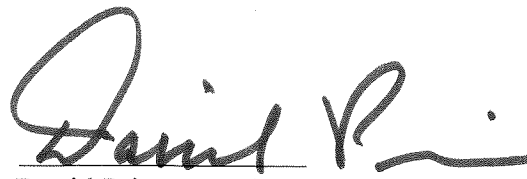
Ben Chandler, Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton, Member of Congress



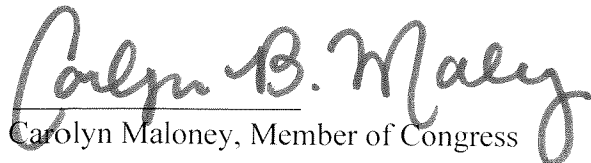
Dennis Moore, Member of Congress



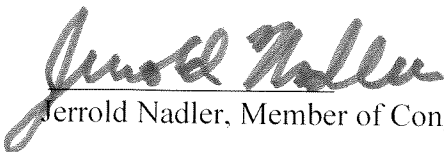
David Price, Member of Congress




Howard Berman, Member of Congress



Carolyn Maloney, Member of Congress




Jerrold Nadler, Member of Congress



David Wu, Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren, Member of Congress


Kathy Castor, Member of Congress


Doris Matsui, Member of Congress